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Commissioner of Health Bevan K. Baker's Statement Regarding City's Lead Lawsuit Verdict

"We are extremely disappointed by the jury's verdict in the City of Milwaukee's lawsuit against NL Industries. The citizens of Milwaukee should know that lead poisoning is still a critical public health threat to the most vulnerable population in our community--our children. Even though the City's lead-safe housing standard has influenced a dramatic decline in lead poisoning rates over the past 10 years, our lead poisoning rates remain 5-15 times higher than the national average. Regardless of today's verdict, NL Industries and other members of the lead paint industry must become meaningful partners in our efforts to eradicate lead in our community," said Commissioner of Health Bevan K. Baker.